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ANNEX "A"

INFILTRATION OF OPERATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PARTIES

A. Operational Concept -

1. We envisage the establishment of a holding camp for a maximum of 300 agents. This camp would be overt and would have a proportion of agents' families in it.

2. From this holding camp we would propose to extract small operational parties of from four to six agents for training in selected training bases.

3. Parties would be infiltrated into Albania from these training bases either direct or through some intermediary staging base. The existence of such a staging base depends on the proximity of the training base to Albania and the means of infiltration, i.e., whether by sea or by air.

4. The number of parties to be trained and infiltrated over any given period would be determined in accordance with circumstances prevailing at the time. The duration of the operation cannot now be estimated, and any dates arrived at in connection with operational planning for the number of parties to be infiltrated into Albania at any one time bear no relation to the culmination of disruptive action, but rather to morale and other considerations affecting the agents.

B. Holding Camp -

1. A holding camp will be established in the American Zone of Germany subject to review by the American authorities in their Zone. The preparation of a scheme to this end will be an American responsibility.

2. We should aim at establishing this camp for 20-30 agents by 31 January 1950.

C. Training Bases -

1. The present Malta base will become available again by about the end of March 1950 provided we can remove the 15-20 Albanians now there (these are four of the parties originally infiltrated during the autumn of 1949). The organization and running of this base will be a British responsibility.

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2. One training base is not enough. A decision has therefore got to be taken without delay on where other training bases are to be established. The possibilities are:

- (a) The U. S. Zone of Germany,
- (b) French North African territories and Corsica,
- (c) Italy and
- (d) Greece.

There is also the possibility of using certain British controlled territories in East Africa. These are, however, very removed from the scene of operations and will involve considerable commitments in maintenance, transportation and final infiltration.

3. The study of where these additional training bases should be will be undertaken in the first instance by the Americans. As soon as tentative proposals are evolved, the study and subsequent planning should be undertaken jointly.

D. Infiltration -

1. We have at present only one means of infiltrating parties into Albania, i.e., a small and slow yacht. Depending where the operational bases are finally established, we shall require either, or both, aircraft and a fast M.T.B. type craft. An early decision is required on the procurement of these vessels since crews have got to be recruited and trained. There are now only some three months left before the operational season begins.

E. Communications between Base and Field -

1. Communications between field and base should be by W/T. It will take from three to six months to train Albanian field operators in W/T. We should therefore begin now.

2. As an alternative means of communication we should arrange for the operation of V.H.F. This will entail the use of two aircraft additional to any used for infiltration.

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